

Thank you for the opportunity to testify at this EPA hearing to voice my concerns.

This is the 21st century. When I was young, smoking was healthy, lead was good in gasoline, the skies in Los Angeles were blue, and there were still electric buses. You in the EPA have had the advantage of an education that has tried to correct the errors and myths of past generations because the science wasn't there.

34 years ago, my kids came to me and said if I died of lung cancer, they would never forgive me. I stopped smoking. I stand here today before you, and say if my grandchildren or anyone's grandchildren or grandparents die because of power plants that pollute, diesel engines that spew particulants, soot and smog-forming pollutants, I will never forgive you. Here in California we expect at least 10 million more people in the next few years and the problems we have will only be increased if something isn't done now.

We know that emissions from power plants are linked to acid rain, smog & soot, and these emissions can aggravate asthma, chronic bronchitis and pneumonia. More seniors and children go to hospitals on smoggy days with respiratory problems. Children's physical activities are curtailed. USC said that there isn't a child without compromised lung capacity here. But strict, anti-pollution rules do not apply to aging power plants unless they make major modifications to extend a plant's life and capacity. Not to end special treatment of older plants, as in the new source review program, and give them 10 years to either install pollution controls or shut down is for me, and I suspect many others not only criminal but immoral. The only grandfathering I want to see, is my husband with his grandchildren not the grandfathering of power plants to continue to pollute our air and hurt the lungs of old and young alike.

If I as a parent raising children, or as a grandparent who owned a house that emitted toxic pollutants that created smog, soot, haze and acid rain, I would be arrested and charged with child endangerment. I could not tell the authorities that it would cost more than my house was worth to clean up the air in it, and then be given an exemption.

Please do not support any air pollution legislation that will ease the current regulations. Please use the legislation already in place to get plants not in compliance to either reduce pollutants or close down. Everyone's health is at risk, the time to take action is now, not later.

Thank you again for this opportunity to speak.

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